TRENDS

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ASSOCIATION OF AMERICAN RAILROADS

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FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE

WASHINGTON, January 18, 1989 -- Intermodal traffic on major U.S. railroads set a record for the seventh consecutive year in 1988, with a 52-week total of 5,716,293 trailers and/or containers carried, the Association of American Railroads reported today.

The 1988 total was 3.9 percent above the previous record of 5,503,819, set in 1987. Since being totally deregulated in 1981, railroad intermodal traffic has increased by 81 percent.

Loadings of trailers and/or containers in the week ended December 31, 1988, totaled 86,925, up 5.8 percent from the comparable week of 1987, but down 20.9 percent from the preceding week.

(more)

Following are carloadings of major railroads, by commodity groups, for 52 weeks of 1988 and 1987:

	1988	1987		Incr./Decr. vs. 1988 vs. 1987	
	Cars	Cars		Cars	Percent
Grain	1,589,871	1,515,361	I	74,510	4.9
Other farm products	185,782	204,020	D	18,238	8.9
Metallic ores	983,417	856,396	I	127,021	14.8
Coal	6,254,106	6,006,687	I	247,419	4.1
Crushed stone, gravel and sand	844,968	777,220	I	67,748	8.7
Nonmetallic minerals	534,532	489,377	I	45,155	9.2
Grain mill products	555,575	565,618	D	10,043	1.8
Food and kindred products	573,046	568,082	I	4,964	0.9
Primary forest products	512,268	544,427	D	32,159	5.9
Lumber and wood products except furniture	390,967	419,681	D	28,714	6.8
Pulp, paper and allied products	637,774	648,731	D	10,957	1.7
Chemicals and allied products	1,442,769	1,371,939	I	70,830	5.2
Petroleum products	265,908	249,657	I	16,251	6.5
Stone, clay and glass products	563,135	544,713	I	18,422	3.4
Coke	297,443	262,059	I	35,384	13.5
Metals and products	542,987	482,292	I	60,695	12.6
Motor vehicles and equipment	1,042,205	982,500	I	59,705	6.1
Waste and scrap materials	490,790	455,949	I	34,841	7.6
Forwarder and shipper association traffic	125,083	142,845	D	17,762	12.4
All other carloads	4,306,916	4,045,730	I	261,186	6.5
Total Cars Loaded	22,139,542	21,133,284	I	1,006,258	4.8

Estimated revenue ton-miles (in billions):

	1988	1987	% Change
First quarter	247.4	226.4	I 9.3
Second quarter	251.3	230.6	I 9.0
Third quarter	250.0	242.3	I 3.2
Fourth quarter	248.4	248.8	D 0.2
Year	997.0	948.0	I 5.2

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